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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU186313099US, in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: June 28, 2002 Signature: (Monica Thomas)

Docket No.: HO-P02202US2
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Stephen D. Ginsberg, et al.

Application No.: 10/075,335 Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: February 14, 2002 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS OF AMPLIFYING RNA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants herein submit a preliminary amendment for the above-referenced application. Upon preparation of the sequence listing, Applicants noted an unintentional typographical error directed to misnumbering of the sequences. Applicants assert that by correcting this error, no new matter is introduced.

Thus, prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Specification

Please insert the following corrected paragraph at paragraph **[0240]**:

[0240] RNA amplification. Amplification of genetic signals includes synthesizing first strand cDNA complementary to the RNA template, subsequently generating second strand cDNA complementary to the first strand cDNA, and finally *in vitro* RNA transcription using the ds cDNA as template. For synthesis of the first strand cDNA complementary to template mRNA, two oligonucleotide primers are used, a poly d(T) primer and a TC primer. The poly d(T) primer used in TC RNA amplification is similar to conventional primers that

exploit the poly A^+ sequence present on most mRNAs, typically containing 24 TTPs (plus a bacteriophage promoter sequence for antisense amplification; see Table 4).

TABLE 4. OLIGONUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES UTILIZED FOR THE POLY D(T) AND TC PRIMERS FOR THE TC RNA AMPLIFICATION METHOD.

a. Antisense RNA orientation

poly d(T)-T7 primer (66 bp): 3′- AAA CGA CGG CCA GTG AAT TGT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGG CGC TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT -5′ (SEQ ID NO:7)

TC primer (17 bp): 5′- TAT CAA CGC AGA GTC CC -3′ (SEQ ID NO:8)

B. Sense RNA orientation

poly d(T) primer (18 bp): 3′- TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT -5′ (SEQ ID NO:9)

TC-T7 primer (51 bp): 5′- AAA CGA CGG CCA GTG AAT TGT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGG CGC GAG AGC CCC-3′ (SEQ ID NO:10)

Application No.: 10/075,335 Docket No.: HO-P02202US2

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P02202US2 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 28, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By Melissa L. Sistrunk

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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

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TC primer (17 bp): 5′- TAT CAA CGC AGA GTC CC -3′ (SEQ ID NO:[6] 8)

C. Sense RNA orientation

poly d(T) primer (18 bp): 3′- TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT TTT -5′ (SEQ ID NO:[7] 9)

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